

REMARKS

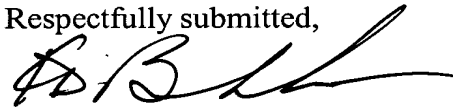
Claims 1-12 and 22-24 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 13-21 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in those claims. Reconsideration of the application based upon the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 2, states that claims 1-12 and 22-24 are allowed. Applicant appreciates the allowance of these claims, and bases the cancellation of claims 13-21 on this allowance.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-12 and 22-24 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:KDB/mab
Date: May 7, 2008

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